

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 764

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor Ronnie and Emily Townes upon the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as exemplars for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, in 1964, Ronnie and Emily Townes were joined in holy matrimony, and since that fateful day, this outstanding couple has faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, both Nashville natives, the couple first met when Ronnie was visiting his cousin at Glenclyff High School; it was a moment that he describes as "love at first sight"; and

WHEREAS, the couple married after Emily's graduation from high school, when she was eighteen years old and he was twenty years old; and

WHEREAS, after marrying, Mrs. Townes began her thirty-year career with the phone company, a career that at one time required their family's relocation to Birmingham, Alabama, where they built their dream home; after retiring from the phone company, the family returned to Nashville, and Emily began her second career working for HCA, the company she still serves in a part-time capacity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Townes compiled a diverse resume throughout his career, working as the manager for his parents' motel in downtown Nashville, an employee of the State's General Services Division of Federal Surplus Property, a realtor, a diamond consultant in the Jewelry Department of Service Merchandise in both Nashville and Birmingham, and upon returning to Nashville, a Sergeant at Arms for the Tennessee Senate; and

WHEREAS, the happy couple have been highly respected citizens of the Nashville community for numerous years; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Townes express their Christian faith as active members of Glen Leven Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie and Emily Townes are active in several civic organizations, including Sons of the Confederate Veterans, Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, and the Tennessee Military Collector's Association; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie has never been known to miss a legislative reception with Emily by his side, always shining as the belle of the ball; and

WHEREAS, when Mr. Townes is not serving as a Sergeant at Arms for the Tennessee Senate, a position he has held since December 2001, he enjoys traveling with his wife; and

WHEREAS, Ronnie and Emily Townes are the proud parents of two daughters, Dawn and Cher, and the proud grandparents of four grandchildren, Chase, Madison, Ben, and Emily, who bring them immense joy and pleasure; and

WHEREAS, the summer of 2014 marks fifty years of love, devotion, and mutual support that enable Mr. and Mrs. Townes to be the strong, loving Christian couple they are and the good friends and caring neighbors they have been to so many others over the years; and

WHEREAS, for fifty years, this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Townes' truly represent the best and brightest of our society, as they remind us of the intrinsic value of continuity and commitment in this ever-changing world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Ronnie and Emily Townes upon the celebration of

their fiftieth wedding anniversary, as we extend to them our warmest wishes for continued happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.